COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States

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April 1, 2019

The Honorable José Serrano Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce Justice, and Science Capitol Building H-310 Washington, DC, 20515 The Honorable Robert Aderholt Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce Justice, and Science Capitol Building H-310 Washington, DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Serrano and Ranking Member Aderholt,

As co-chairs of the Congressional NASA Caucus, we strongly urge your support for the continued robust funding for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as a multi-mission agency that includes aeronautics, Earth and space science, space technology, human spaceflight and exploration, and education.

Over the last 60 years, NASA has inspired and changed the world. Thanks to NASA's efforts, humankind has made tremendous advancements in space exploration, science, and aeronautic advancements. NASA's current exploration campaign of commercializing low earth orbit, driving down costs and developing bold initiatives to return to the moon and on to Mars will inspire future generations on earth. With robust funding, the United States can continue to lead the world in improving our understanding of air transportation, the solar system, and the galaxies that lie beyond.

NASA enjoys a rich history that includes landing humans on the moon, the assembly and utilization of the International Space Station, and the launch and science operations of the Hubble Space Telescope. These achievements have rewritten textbooks and transformed our understanding of the universe and its origins. In addition to its efforts in space and scientific discovery, NASA makes an invaluable impact on the U.S. economy and Americans' quality of life. By pioneering cutting-edge advancements in aeronautics, NASA has improved air transportation safety and efficiencies, brought our world closer together, and created jobs in local communities across the country. NASA's Earth observing systems advance our understanding of our planet and its changes and provide valuable data for applications in land use, agriculture, and weather and air quality, for example.

Today, the United States' role as an international leader relies on our leadership in aeronautics, space exploration, and science. NASA has committed itself to accomplishing this mission by identifying four strategic goals 1) expand human knowledge through new scientific discoveries 2) extend human presence deeper into space and to the moon for sustainable long-term exploration and utilization 3) address national challenges and catalyze economic growth 4) optimize capabilities and operations.

The innovative and entrepreneurial spirit imbedded in our country sets us apart from the rest of the world. The United States is home to the most pioneering scientists and engineers and with robust funding, NASA can continue to pave the way forward in humankind's journey to go where once thought to be impossible. We strongly urge you to provide NASA strong top-line funding so that we can maintain and grow our international preeminence in science, air, and space.

Sincerely,

MARCY KAPTUR Member of Congress KENDRA HORN Member of Congress

BILL POSEY

Member of Congress

ANTHONY GONZALEZ Member of Congress